

Dealing With Ill Students

Scenario:

- Students may come down with pandemic influenza like symptoms while at school.
- There may be a need to temporarily isolate ill students before sending them home to prevent the spread of disease.
- There may be a need to transport ill students home or to a medical facility if and when parents/guardians are unavailable.

Recommendations:

- Each school should use existing student sickness surveillance procedures or establish procedures for identifying and reporting students with pandemic influenza like illness.
- Develop emergency contact procedures to notify the ill student's parents or guardians and arrange to have the student sent home as soon as possible.
- Consider designating a school bus for transporting ill students if parents or guardians are unavailable.
- Establish procedures for sending ill students to a local hospital/clinic for diagnosis and treatment if necessary
- Establish procedures to minimize the spread of disease and to protect students and teachers from getting ill.
 - Discourage students from sharing food or utensils, especially with students who are ill.
 - Encourage all students and staff to wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water before eating and before touching their eyes, noses or mouths.
 - Advise ill students and staff to cough and sneeze into tissue or sleeves and not use their hands.
 - Advise all students and staff to stay home if they are sick.
 - Staff (such as school nurses) who must come within 3 feet of a sick student should consider wearing disposable facemasks.
 - Consider stockpiling alcohol based hand sanitizers, hand-washing soap, tissue and disposable facemasks.